

Customer No.: 31561
Docket No.: 12022-US-PA
Application No.: 10/709,897

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

The Office Action rejected all presently pending claims 1-24. Specifically, claim 1 is objected. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claims 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Uchida et al. (JP 02002057771; hereinafter Uchida). Claims 1-4, 9, 10, 14, 18-20, 22, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lahr (U.S. Pub. 2003/0132863). Claims 1, 5-8, 18, 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lahr. Claims 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lahr in view of Uchida. Applicant has amended claims to correct typographic errors and improve clarity. Applicant has also added claims 25-32. After entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1-32 remain pending in the present application, and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

About Amendments

Applicant has added claim 28 to define the pivot position. For example, as shown in FIG. 5A, with the design principle, the pivot position can be any point on the line formed between the geometric center 114 and the farthest position indicated by the pivot axle 102 at the one side periphery, but not on the geometric center 114. Therefore, the newly added claim 28 is duly supported and no new matters are introduced.

Paragraph [0013] also describes the 45-degree angles as recited in claims 26, 28, 30, and 32.

Customer No.: 31561
Docket No.: 12022-US-PA
Application No.: 10/709,897

Discussion of Claim Rejections under 35 USC 102

1. Claims 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Uchida. Claims 1-4, 9, 10, 14, 18-20, 22, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lahr. Claims 1, 5-8, 18, 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lahr. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections for at least the reasons set forth below.

2. With respect to amended independent claims 1, 15, and 18, the present invention includes the distinguishing features of the pivot axis 102 located off the two geometric center lines, such as the geometric center lines 50 and 52. As a result, when the sliding member 112 is rotated around the pivot axis, the sliding member can be easily moved out from the body 110 to expose the keyboard on the sliding member for inputting information. This arrangement is useful in design and operation. It requires just a simple rotation (i.e., see FIG 16C) even though the movement can be optionally included (i.e see FIG 17C). The sliding member can be moved to the proper second position by a simple process.

Applicant has also submitted Appendix drawings that describe the rotation mechanism. Clearly, the pivot connection is a side point but is not located on any one of the geometrical lines.

3. Furthermore, with respect to dependent claims 5 and 21, the sliding member can be rotated by 180 degrees (see FIG 19B).

4. In re Lahr, the hub (pivot axis) 22 (see Fig. 4) is located at one of the geometric center

Customer No.: 31561
Docket No.: 12022-US-PA
Application No.: 10/709,897

lines of the member 20 rather than off the two geometric center lines in the present invention. By the track 18 on the body 12 (see Fig. 3), the keyboard 20 is pulled out by rotation and movement due to a different design mechanism. The rotation is by 90 degrees.

Therefore, Lahr does not disclose the features as recited in claims 1, 15, and 18 and further the dependent claims 5 and 21.

5. In re Uchida, the pivot member 38 is located at the geometric center line of the body 13 (Figs. 1-6), not located off the two geometric center lines as in the present invention. In addition, the rotation is 90 degrees. The design of rotating 180 degrees is not disclosed.

Therefore, Uchida does not disclose the features as recited in claims 1, 15, and 18 and dependent claims 5 and 21.

Discussion of Claim Rejections under 35 USC 103

Claims 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lahr in view of Uchida. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections for the reasons set forth below.

For the foregoing reasons applied to independent claim 1, Lahr and Uchida do not disclose or suggest the features as recited in claim 1. For the same foregoing reasons, features in claims 11-13 are not disclosed or suggested.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 15, 18, and 28 are patently defined over the prior art references and should be allowed. For the same

Customer No.: 31561
Docket No.: 12022-US-PA
Application No.: 10/709,897

reasons, dependent claims 2-14, 16-17, and 19-27 are patently defined over the prior art references as a matter of law. Wherein, claims 5 and 21 are further defined over the prior art references.

Customer No.: 31561
Docket No.: 12022-US-PA
Application No.: 10/709,897

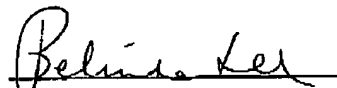
CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, it is believed that pending claims 1-28 of the invention are patently defined over the prior art and in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Date :

Oct. 17, 2005



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